

REMARKS

Claims 2-12 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicant cancels claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to priority and for initializing the Information Disclosure Statement submitted on July 30, 2003.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Beauchamp (U.S. Patent No. 5,825,378; hereinafter "Beauchamp"). Claims 2-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant submits the objected claims 2-8, 11 and 12 in independent form and are thus patentable. Claims 9 and 10, which depend from claim 8, are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 10/629,677

Atty Dkt No. Q76701

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 4, 2005